



■ Inside:

- 2 - Mark Domeier
- 3 - Past and Present
- 4 - Bob Hanson
- 5 - Obituaries
- 6 - Looking Back
- 7 - Classifieds
- 8 - Fitness Awards

■ Page 4



Blue Belt

**The Great Protector-The Apron at Clarks Grove Historical Museum Thurs., Aug. 14**  
Come to the Clarks Grove Historical Museum to see The Great Protector-The Apron at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 14. Historical Society meeting before the presentation. This event is free to attend. Free will donations accepted.

**County Veterans Memorial plaque requests by August 15**  
Anyone wishing to add a new plaque to the Waseca County Veterans Memorial on the courthouse property can apply anytime. Applying by August 15 will ensure the newly ordered plaque is in place by Veterans Day. Anyone wanting further information should contact the county Veterans' Services office at 507-835-0680. Applications can also be completed online at <https://www.co.waseca.mn.us/134/Veteran-Services>.

**Military Stand Down at the National Guard Armory Albert Lea August 16**  
A Military Stand Down at the National Guard Armory in Albert Lea will be from 8 a.m. till 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16. A Stand Down is where veterans and their families can come get help with housing, food, finances, employment, medical care, substance abuse and much more. 410 Prospect Road, Albert Lea.

**Hartland University's Biker Bug Run Saturday, August 16**  
The Third Annual Hartland University's Biker Bug Run will take place at noon, Saturday, August 16, with kickstands up at 12:30 p.m. Registration is \$10 per person, all proceeds donated to American Bikers for Awareness and the training and education of Minnesota Young Riders Program. There will be six stops in total with a door prize at each location for closest bug to the bullseye.

**Butterflies workshop at Waldorf Public Library Aug. 19 to 22**  
Create iridescent butterflies using colorful paper, pompoms, and other crafty surprises at Waldorf Public Library during open hours August 19-22. Encourages creativity, fine motor skills. For ages 5 and up.

**Bingo for Books at New Richland Public Library Wednesday, Aug. 20**  
Play Bingo for Books at the New Richland Public Library at 10 a.m. Wednesday August 20. Win bingo to bring home a free book of your choosing. The final blackout game prize will be a book and a gift card. For ages 7-14.

**Briefs continued on 2**

**Got news?**  
507-463-8112

A word from  
The Word

The faith that you have, keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who has no reason to pass judgment on himself for what he approves.

Romans 14:22



New Richland deputy clerk Heather Christensen and New Richland Chief of Police Tanyce Bruegger serving food during Night to Unite.

## Sixth annual New Richland Night Out

By BEN REVERMANN  
Staff writer  
Several dozen people attended New Richland's fifth annual Night to Unite celebration the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2025 at New Richland City Park. The "Night to Unite" is meant to honor law enforcement officers and first responders, including medical personnel and firefighters.  
"The weather was beautiful tonight," said Tanyce Bruegger, city police chief. "You can't beat a free meal, some good fun and a chance to meet some new people... Plus there were no mosquitoes!"  
This year's event had the addition of a pony, Quinton, provided by the Waseca County Sheriff's Posse, some of whose members attended this year. Leading the evening's activities were the local fire department, first responders, ambulance, and police volunteers. It was hard to tell exactly who the volunteers were with representatives from many local agencies attending simply because they wanted to.  
Bruegger credited the three departments for the setup. Chad Neitzel helped grill hot dogs again this

New Richland continued on 5



Logan Jake showed junior fire fighress Viv Trautman how to put out a fire at the New Richland National Night Out on August 5, 2025.  
Star Eagle photo by Ben Revermann



The members of LeSueur River Lutheran Church northeast of New Richland have been working about five years toward replacing their steeple, which was blown down by a tornado. Now that the replacement structure is built, a particularly large crane is scheduled to come soon to lift it into place.

## Heavenward LeSueur River Lutheran church steeple set to go up this week

By DEB BENTLY  
Staff Writer  
Members of LeSueur River Lutheran, a rural church located northeast of New Richland, can still tell you when the steeple was blown off their house of worship by a tornado: 6 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2020.  
Various circumstances have stretched the process out, but members are thrilled to know their steeple-less building will have its bell and its entire classic shape again within a few days. A rebuilt steeple will soon be raised into place by an especially tall crane being brought in for the purpose.  
The church's bell, first purchased in 1883 and weighing 1,250 pounds, has been refurbished and now shines like new. Congregation members say they look forward to hearing it ring. "There's something unique about the sound of a bell from a country church," observes church member Matt Groskreutz.  
Church leaders shake their heads when they consider what could have happened: When the bell fell, the metal framework which suspended it was broken. The bell left an inches-deep indentation in the road. It missed a metal construction dumpster, which could have easily caused it to be permanently damaged, by inches.  
For the time being, the rebuilt steeple stands alongside the church building, rivaling its height. It, too, sends a message of renewal. Its shingles and any temporarily visible areas of wood are completely unweathered.  
Church leaders say it's nearly inexpressible what it took to get to this point.  
The night of the tornado, a construction crew had just finished a \$130,000 remodeling project inside the church. "We didn't even get to have one service in it," observed Groskreutz. The silver lining was that the equipment the construction crew had been using was still parked on site: workers had the tools needed to put up a temporary roof.  
After the June 2 storm moved through, news spread quickly that the steeple had fallen. "It blew down, landed on the church roof, and then dropped down onto the road," describes Jim Kortz, who

Steeple continued on 5



From left: Zoe was enjoying root beer floats with her mother Tiffany Clark, while watching kids come down the slides at the Ellendale Night to Unite on Tuesday, Aug. 5, 2025. "Night to Unite" is meant to honor law enforcement officers and first responders, including medical personnel and firefighters. Far right, Barb Mrotz and Dan Nelson were present to answer questions or to talk about The Ellendale Historical Society.  
Star Eagle photos by Ben Revermann

## Annual Ellendale night out

By BEN REVERMANN  
Staff writer  
The Ellendale National Night Out saw more than 150 visitors the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 5 at the City Park of Ellendale. Children enjoyed a bounce house and had the chance to interact with members of the Ellendale Police Department and Steele County Sheriff's Office. Also sharing information were the Ellendale Area Heritage Society and United Way. The "Night to Unite" is meant to honor law enforcement officers and first responders, including medical personnel and firefighters.  
The local Lions organization provided brats and hot dogs, with chips and a drink. The City of Ellendale provided root beer floats, for which free will donations were accepted. Barb Mrotz and Heritage Society president Dan Nelson answered questions about the society or Ellendale's history.  
Children full of hot dogs were quick to arm themselves with straws and spoons as they lined up for root beer floats. The bounce house was, literally, "bouncing" with children's energy, and games of tetherball were ongoing. The playground was full and echoing with delighted screams and laughs. Steele County Sheriff Lon Thiele observed that as many members of the two law enforcement teams attended as possible, but that they were giving higher priority to answering calls for assistance. "We like to see all the kids playing," he commented regarding the evening.  
"That's why we do it." The Sheriff Emergency Operations trailer was parked on site for any curious onlookers who might be hoping for a tour or demonstration.  
Volunteer Cynthia Nelson was operating the grill and keeping count of the number of people attending. She was one of 11 volunteers in addition to public safety workers.





# FenceLines

by Mark Bernard

## Chipmunk goo is hard to remove

The scurs and their vaunted Weather Eye delivered a very seasonal weather forecast last week. Do we stay on track or does Mother Nature change course? Starting Thursday, mostly sunny with a fair chance of evening showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80's with lows in the upper 60's. Mostly sunny on Friday with a fair chance of p.m. rain. Highs in the mid-80's with lows in the upper 60's. Mostly sunny on Saturday with a good chance of evening showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-80's with lows in the upper 60's. Sunday, mostly sunny with a fair chance of an evening shower or thunderstorm. Highs in the low 80's with lows in the low 60's. Sunny on Monday with highs in the 80's with lows in the upper 50's. Tuesday, partly sunny with a good chance of rain as the day unfolds. Highs in the mid-70's with lows in the mid-50's. Mostly cloudy on Wednesday with a fair chance for showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-70's with lows in the mid-50's. On August 15th, we slip below 14 hours of daylight and won't see that much again until April 27th. The normal high for August 15th is 79 and the normal low is 59. The scurs will be laying in graham crackers, marshmallows, and Hershey bars for the fall campfires that lie ahead.

Crops continue thundering along at about the same pace they were on a year ago. The GDU accumulation at the SROC in Waseca as of last Wed. was 1750. A year ago they had accumulated 1732, so within a day's worth. For the season, GDUs were 6.7% ahead of normal. That translates into some early planted, early maturing corn already showing some dents as of late last week. The soybean crop had largely been nice to look at, but had yet to really show its hand. Looking at fields on Monday, it started to make believers out of some that perhaps they were as good as they looked from the road. Most soybeans are now R5 stage and will likely be for a few weeks. When they reach R6.5, soybean aphids are extremely unlikely to cause any economic yield loss. Even though they were detected in June, they haven't mounted much of an offensive. In the meantime, beneficial insects in the form of ladybeetles, lacewings, pirate bugs and syrphid fly larvae are doing their thing. No one here gets out alive.

The flying, biting insects continue to thrive. Getting into a corn field by ponded water can be like taking your life in your own hands. Being near livestock doesn't help. The nasty little stable flies that bite through your

socks have been particularly vicious this year. Fear not, there is relief in sight. In soybean fields, some golden garden spiders have been noted. These large yellow and black orb weavers are a pleasant surprise if you're not an insect. Likewise in the barn, while rather ugly, the large barn spiders have taken up residence once again. Regardless of their appearance, they eat their fair share of flies and moths. Around the yard, there are more small toads than there have been for a few years. Despite their small size, no question they can devour small prey like mosquitoes, gnats and other pestilence. As they get larger, they gravitate towards the barn and a target rich environment. If you've never watched a toad catch flies, it's worth the price of admission.

As mentioned last week at the ranch, the garden continues to flourish after earlier struggles. Too much rain at the wrong time can do that. As anticipated, the cucumbers are hitting their stride. It always amazes me how well the cukes can hide under the canopy in their sidehill home. This year is no exception, especially with the deep forest green color of the vines. A few specimens wound up being sheep feed even though I thought I'd done a pretty good job of finding them all the night before. The cukes themselves have excellent flavor and I make sure there are always wedges cut up ahead for a few days' worth of meals. Between fresh garden cukes and tomatoes, it's hard to say which I miss more come January. At least it gives us something to look forward to once spring rolls around again.

Poppy's getting nearly shed out, except for some of her shorter hair. As part of that we've noticed spots of a sticky substance in the fur on top of her head. She doesn't enjoy having it brushed either. At first, I thought it was possibly some grape jelly that had dripped out of the oriole feeder. After taking a warm damp washcloth to try to remove it, the goo didn't budge. I started to wonder if it was evergreen pitch of some kind. It didn't take long to figure out how it might've got there. Poppy has been spending a lot of time sniffing between the front steps and under the spruce by the house. A few days ago I spotted the potential reason: A chipmunk, something we hadn't seen at the ranch for several years. He was helping himself to the leftovers under the birdfeeder, then scampered for cover under the balsam fir. Another new exercise partner for Poppy.

See you next week...real good then.

### In brief

bouquet-making from talented local floral experts, tickets are \$55.

#### Waldorf Veterans Memorial Fund Drive

Donations are requested to support the construction of the Waldorf Veterans Memorial. Checks written to WVMP Fund Drive can be mailed to WVMP Fund Drive; Judy Joecks, treasurer; P.O. Box 55; Waldorf, MN 56091.

Questions can be directed to Charlie Barnes at (763) 286-2246.

#### Waldorf Community Pickleball every Thursday at old Waldorf School

Waldorf Community Pickleball plays every Thursday from 5 p.m.

till 9 p.m. or so. They meet at the old Waldorf School in the gym, 144 North Street in Waldorf.

#### Shepherd's Robe Free store Tuesdays from 1-3 and 5-7 p.m.

The Shepherd's Robe free store offers clothing, supplies, and much more for free to all interested parties. The store is located at Vista Covenant Church, 14679 275th Avenue, New Richland.

#### Star Eagle seeking writer to cover NRHEG Area

We would really like to hire another writer to work 10-20 hours per week writing stories and covering events in the New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva area.

# Part-time jobs lead to...

Think back to the first job you had that you got paid for by someone other than your parents. Depending on your age, that could be a wide range of things, and the amount you earned probably seemed like a gold rush at the time!

My first paying job was walking beans for some friends of our family. A group of us trudged up and down the rows of beans, yanking out those pesky weeds by the roots. It also was the first time I ever encountered marijuana, though I didn't really know it at the time; it was just another weed to pick.

I don't remember exactly how much money I made, but it was a substantial number to a kid who was probably about 12 years old. Plus, the mom in the family fed us well each day, including taking us to the Godfather's lunch buffet on the last day!

Part-time jobs are the backbone of many businesses, including farming. As I grew up, farmers would hire you not just to walk beans but also to help with baling hay. Anything for money, and they paid more than my parents did for the chores I did around our place.

When it's time to drive a vehicle, money becomes more important. You need a job to at least pay for gas. If you were like me, the first place you looked for a job was where a parent worked. In my case, I applied at Randall Foods in New Ulm, where Dad worked for most of his life.

The first place they put me, in October? The Christmas shop on the other side of the store parking lot! I didn't sell much in October, but I did eat a lot of ginger snaps and drank plenty of hot cider. Things picked up



## Whatever Flips Your Waffle

by Mark Domeier  
Contributing Writer

when the trees came in, and we kept plenty busy through the holidays.

After that, I was moved inside and learned how to bag groceries. There is an art to doing that, and I started when we just used paper bags. We even had a test cart to prove that we were ready and knew not to put the laundry detergent in with the produce. We also had drive-up service, so sometimes we'd battle the elements to load groceries in vehicles, which was also an art form.

Obviously, your job has to work around your school hours, but if you're involved in extracurricular activities, there's even more wrangling. Since I played basketball and baseball, I couldn't work until after practice during the week and certainly couldn't on game nights. I also played pep band in the fall. But I found myself at the store most Saturdays and Sundays for sure.

After a time, I got moved to the grocery crew. Trucks came in Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and it was our job to unload them and stock the shelves. Rotation is important; you don't just shove the new items in front of what was already there. Plus, we had to face the shelves, to make them look nice with everything pulled forward.

I was able to transfer to the Randall Foods in Winona when I de-

parted for college. There, I eventually ended up in frozen and dairy and even ran those departments when my boss had to take a medical leave. I loved my time in the grocery business!

Sometimes, teenagers will hop from job to job when things don't go their way. That's no way to get a higher wage much of the time. When I started at the store, I made \$3.85 an hour. By the time I was done seven years later, I was up around \$8 an hour, pretty good back in the mid-90s.

I finished up my career in the produce department and was offered a full-time job. However, I had just gotten my teaching job at NRHEG and figured I should use my college degree!

As my children have progressed through various part-time jobs, they reiterate the most important lesson they have learned: Getting their degree was important because they didn't want to continue where they were/are. These jobs might be what some people enjoy, but my kids are just trying to earn some money.

Jayna started at Casey's in Ellendale and didn't mind most of it, except cleaning bathrooms. But managers make a difference, and when she came home from her first year of college, she didn't have much

interest in working there anymore. So she joined Anton at Arby's in Owatonna.

He had started there the previous year and raved about the good atmosphere there as an employee. They would have fun contests, like who could upsell the most cookies, and they'd also have dress-up days with costumes. No matter where you work, if you like the people around you and have some good leadership, it can be an amazing experience.

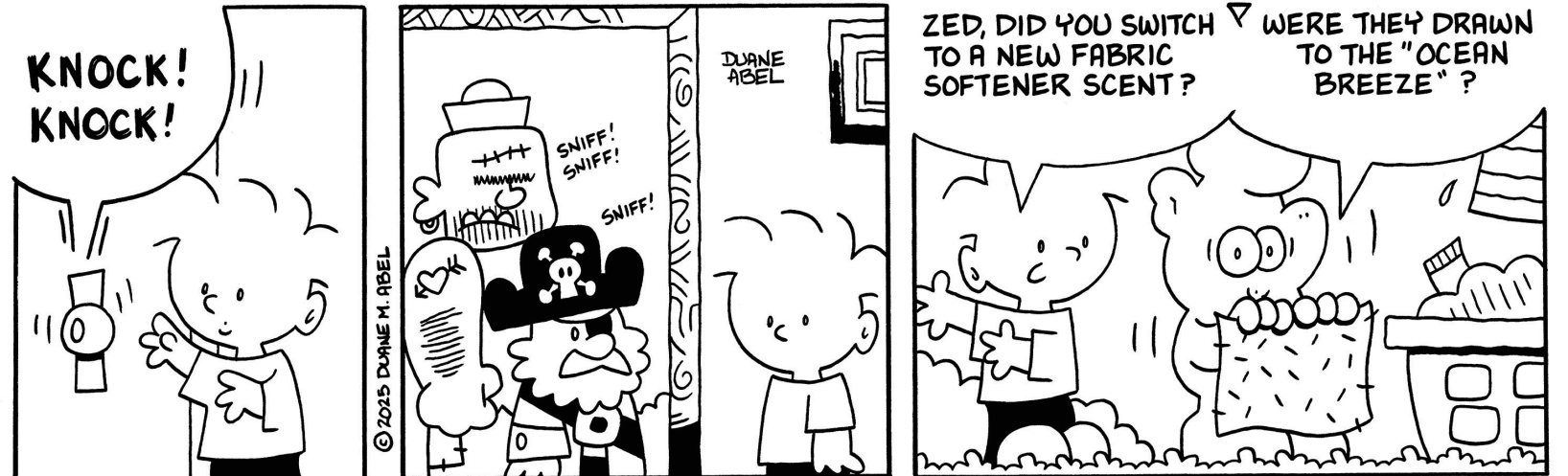
In college, both kids have worked at restaurants. Now that Jayna is on to her first teaching job, she says she'll never do that again. Anton is trying to move up from dishwasher at his place of employment.

But he also has gotten a chance to work in the graphics department at MSU for work study. This is his area of study, so it's one of those great part-time jobs that can help strengthen your resume. My grocery store experience didn't get me my teaching job, but this might help him down the road.

As I enter the last quarter of my career, I think about what I'll do when I retire. The answer I always tell folks? I think I'll go back to the grocery business. I still prefer to bag my own groceries, and I want to face the shelves when items are pushed back a ways. I guess a part-time job won't be such a bad thing again.

Word of the Week: This week's word is agnology, which means the study of ignorance, as in, "The teenager engaged in agnology with some of the customers who entered the store where she worked." Impress your friends and confuse your enemies!

## ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

### In brief

#### Build your own Bouquet at New Richland Liquor Store Thursday, Aug. 21

There will be a Build your own Bouquet from 6-8 p.m. at the New Richland Liquor Store on Thursday, Aug. 21. Join Andi and Haley for a delightful evening of flower arranging, unleash creativity and learn the art of bouquet-making from talented local floral experts, tickets are \$55.

#### Waldorf Car Show, Fire Dept. annual Sweet Corn and Burger Feed Friday, Aug. 22

The Waldorf Antique Car and Truck Show, followed by the Waldorf Fire and Rescue Annual Sweet Corn and Burger Feed will take place starting at 4 p.m. Friday August 22. New this year is a Kiddie Car show and a chance to win \$100,000 every fifteen minutes.

#### Romp and Rhyme Story Times at New Richland Public Library Tuesday, Aug. 26

Romp and Rhyme Story Times at the New Richland Public Library at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26. From puppets to pumping music, from bubble machines to banging bands, these are not your average story times. This is free and open to the public.

#### NRHEG Open House and Grill Out in New Richland on Wed., Aug. 27

There will be an open house and grill out at New Richland High School from 2-8 p.m. on Wednesday,

Aug. 27. This will include a hot dog meal from 3 p.m. till gone. Come to the open house and meet teachers, find your locker, walk your schedule and fill out paperwork.

#### Build your own Bouquet at Geneva Bar and Grill Wednesday, Aug. 27

There will be a Build your own Bouquet at the Geneva Bar and Grill from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 27. Join Andi and Haley for a delightful evening of flower arranging, unleash creativity and learn the art of bouquet-making from talented local floral experts, tickets are \$55.

#### Third annual Ride to Remember at Hartland University Bar Saturday, Sept. 6

The third annual Ride to Remember will depart from Hartland University Bar around noon on Saturday, Sept. 6. There will be a list of bars to collect cards from, which bars visited is up to riders, best hand announced 7 p.m. 50/50 raffle, silent auction and winning hand prizes. Proceeds donated to Flags for Vets.

#### Sheriff's Posse Wagon Train in Waseca Sept. 5, 6, 7

The Waseca County Sheriff's Posse is hosting the statewide Posse Wagon Train for Youth from Sept. 5 to 7. Participants and their horses or mules will be camping at the Waseca County fairgrounds and taking daily drives to local sites of interest including Courthouse Park, Farmamerica, and a drive around Clear Lake. More information either for participating or giving donations is available from the Waseca County Sheriff's Posse

Facebook Page. Funds will be donated to Children's Hospital and Clinics. Early registration closes Aug. 15.

#### Build your own Bouquet

#### at Hartland University Sunday, Sep. 7

There will be a Build your own Bouquet from 2-4 p.m. at the Hartland University Bar on Sunday, Sep. 7. Join Andi and Haley for a delightful evening of flower arranging, unleash creativity and learn the art of

## Star Eagle

SERVING THE NEW RICHLAND-HARTLAND-ELLENDALE-GENEVA AREA and the communities of Waseca, Otisco, Hope, Clarks Grove, Matawan, Freeborn and Waldorf

PHONE: 507-463-8112

FAX: 507-463-0804, email: steagle@hickorytech.net

USPS No. 382-040, address: 128 North Broadway

Mail: PO Box 248, New Richland, MN 56072

DEADLINES: STAR EAGLE: Noon Monday  
GOLDEN LINK: Previous Friday

ELI LUTGENS  
MELANIE PILTINGSRUD  
DEB BENTLY  
JIM LUTGENS  
JESSICA LUTGENS  
TERESA ROSACKER  
PAYGE ROSACKER

Publisher/Editor  
Copy Editor  
Staff Writer  
Sports Editor  
Staff Writer  
Advertising Sales  
Editorial Assistant

Contributors: Al Batt, Bob Hanson, Mark Bernard, Mark Domeier, Dick Herfindahl, Barb Mrotz, Brenda Dokken, Judy Tweeten, Rachael Jaeger, Tristan Gehring, Ben Revermann, Payge Rosacker, Darin Reese, Rachel Loverink

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$57 Per Year, Waseca, Steele, & Freeborn Counties  
\$67 State of Minnesota • \$77 Outside Minnesota

Published every Thursday by EJL Publications, Inc., and Periodical Postage paid at the Post Office at New Richland, Minnesota 56072. Entire contents copyright © 2025 EJL Publications, Inc. and respective authors. Opinions expressed in editorials or letters to the editor are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the Star Eagle or EJL Publications, Inc. Letters may be edited for content or length. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to P.O. Box 248, New Richland, MN 56072-0248





Compostings

by Al Batt

An inspiring tale

**ECHOES FROM A LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING**  
Not a single person has wished me a happy birthday today. I'll fix that. Happy birthday. Thanks, but it's not my birthday.

**DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE**

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I was taking a walk break between volunteer gigs at a fair when a friend proposed buying me an ice cream cone. That was an offer I couldn't refuse. According to the weather app on my phone, it was ice cream weather. Don Kardong stated, "Without ice cream, there would be darkness and chaos." The song "I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream" was written in 1927. The carving of Mount Rushmore began in 1927, yet it didn't include an ice cream cone—a colossal oversight. I was effusive in my gratitude at becoming the proud owner of a maple nut ice cream cone, which was simply sublime. The abiding rule is that the hotter the day, the more I want an ice cream cone. And the hotter the day, the faster the ice cream melts.

**GETTING A GOOD EDUCATION**

Once upon a time, in a land not far, far away, I sat at my desk in my grand grade school when nature called. Nature would have put me on speed dial had there been speed dial in those thrilling days of yesteryear.

"Can I go to the bathroom?" precious little me asked meekly.

"May I go to the bathroom?" my excellent elementary school teacher corrected me. I told her she could.

**I'VE LEARNED**

If my wife tells me I look nice, that means I haven't missed a button on my shirt.

Locks turn doors into walls. I'm not allowed in a casino because I count cards. There are 52.

Conspiracy theorists forget how difficult it is for just two people to keep a secret.

In lighter news, the Zippo lighter has appeared in more than 2,000 movies, stage plays and television shows.

I used to be good at taking things apart and not good at putting them back together again. I was lucky that my father and brother seemed able to fix everything I could dismantle. I've met many mechanics. My father told me never to trust a mechanic with clean fingernails.

**BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT**

Just when I thought food couldn't call me on the phone, onion rings.

Wanted: Someone to brush their teeth with me. Because nine

out of ten dentists say brushing alone won't help tooth decay. No weirdos, please.

What do you call a Zen master in charge of snacks? A chipmunk.

I asked the Michelin Man how his day went. He said it was tiring.

I bought a thesaurus, but when I got home and opened it, all the pages were blank. I have no words to describe how angry I was.

**THE NEWS FROM HARTLAND HAROLD**

I listened to Todd Utpadel tell his inspiring cancer story at the Relay for Life in Albert Lea. I always find making my laps past all the luminarias on a survivors' walk to be a humbling experience.

I was likewise humbled by being named the Freeborn County Fair Person of the Year.

**NATURE NOTES**

As I pulled weeds that were identical to the weeds I'd pulled the week before, I was reminded that nature has much more patience than I do.

A cardinal sang a cheerful message, an exaltation of an avian voice that could be heard as, "Oh, dear, dear, dear."

A phoebe engaged in persistent tail pumping before snatching a flying insect. Phoebe is a Titaness in Greek mythology.

Lord of the stable flies, I am not. They chew on my ankles as if I were a bag of Purina Stable Fly Chow. Small meadowhawk dragonflies flew like mini-drones. The males are red and the females are yellow.

The "black eye" of black-eyed Susans refers to the dark brown center of the daisy-like flower head. This member of the Asteraceae family can be found growing in almost any sunny location. It's believed that their name originates from a 1729 ballad about a young woman named Susan saying goodbye to her true love. Wild bergamot (bee balm) bloomed in a light-purple profusion. Fleabane provided lovely white flowers.

Far from home, the downtown crows flew in and landed on my borrowed truck. I'd gone into a bookstore to buy a friend's new book. The birds landed and made crow noises. I suspected they were waiting to get a ride home.

Dragonflies travel long distances and congregate (swarm) in areas where there is plentiful flying food, such as winged ants, mosquitoes, etc. Some prefer to hunt near dusk or dawn because they see their prey better when the sun is low on the horizon. Once the prey numbers drop, the dragonflies move on.

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you."—Princess Diana.

Past & Present closing doors after 28 years

By AMELIA ROESSLER  
Editorial Assistant

The main question posed lately to Sandi Prange, 67, owner of Past & Present Antiques & Gifts in Waseca is, "What are you looking forward to after retiring?"

"I want to go," is Prange's response.

After 28 years of running the store located on State Street in Waseca, Prange is saying goodbye to the historical building and the business she built.

"I just felt like I wanted to try a new avenue, visiting family down south. You really can't get away to do that when you're running full time, five days a week and then some," Prange said. With a son in Nashville, a son in Florida, and also three siblings in Florida, Prange is excited at the chance to finally go visit.

Prange plans to close Past & Present in November and said there is a possible buyer for the building who is willing to be flexible about how long it takes her to finish emptying the space. Her three part-time employees will also be retiring. Nancy Tollefson, who worked with Prange for 25 years from the beginning, brought joy to the store. Julie Praxle, who has been there almost 23 years and is still working with Prange, has boundless energy and does all of the staging and decorating, Prange said.

But for now, Prange is marking all her merchandise down by 20 percent, encouraging customers to keep an eye on Facebook, where she will post if the percentage gets higher. She is also taking time to reflect on the life of the store.

"My husband, he forced me into it," Prange laughed. "He wanted us to buy this and make it a guy's antique shop with car parts and stuff like that because it's an old auto repair shop. And I said, 'I can't do that.' I said, that is not in my heart. I have to do things that I like if I'm going to have a store."

But it really started with Prange's love of doing craft shows when she and her husband Randy owned the glass shop. Prange said she would bring her craft show displays in and set it up in the shop.

"We had a loft up there, so I called that the Gift Loft," Prange said. "I would have gals come down there and they'd go up to the gift loft and shop."

The Gift Loft eventually moved into the Past & Present store, which opened April 15 of 1997.

Prange remembers the second day she was open, she got the first shipment of Beanie Babies, which were all the rage at the time. She said they changed the way she did retail because of all the people who came in, buying out her whole stock until she had to limit purchases to one per person and even to only selling the toys on Saturdays.

"One time I was leaving late at night and there was a fish house tent set up right outside the door. Someone was waiting. It was midnight, and someone was waiting there. Another day, I came in on a Saturday and the line was all the way to the south of the building from the front door," Prange said.

She chuckled and said that Casey's would get upset with her because she didn't warn them she was doing it and everybody was over there getting coffee waiting for her to open. An article written during that earlier time mentioned the long lines prominently, and told how, when the UPS delivery man would tell people at Brown



**LABOR OF LOVE** - Sandi Prange stands at the counter of her store, Past & Present Antiques & Gifts, a store she's run for the past 28 years.

Star Eagle photo by Amelia Roessler

Printing about her shipment, they would "high-tail it over" to the store after work and get the Beanie Babies.

"I wish I would've had a picture because it's hard to believe," Prange said.

Another thing she said was memorable were the open houses, especially the Christmas house walk. People opened their homes and let visitors walk through. Customers would then buy similar supplies and imitate a style of decoration they had liked. Prange said she feels blessed that in all of the open houses she had, which were always fun but exhausting for her, she was always healthy and they never had bad weather.

Even 9/11 had an impact on the store.

"After 9/11, I came in that day and the next few days we were so busy. One of my employees turned on the radio. She wanted to hear it and I said, 'Turn it off. Put on music; I think people are trying to get away.' If they don't want to be in front of their TV, they want to just get out of that," Prange said.

There were slow times too. Prange mentions 2008 to 2010 as having been slow at the store. She remembers the downturn in the economy even led to an increased number of returns as economic woes led to buyers' remorse.

"It was hard. But because this place was in my heart. I couldn't give it up then."

Prange said there were lots of times when things became overwhelming, making the idea of throwing in the towel seem inviting. In the beginning, store hours were 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the week and on Sundays. They are now 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. With these hours and being open most days of the week, Prange found it hard to get away and never wanted to close shop for a day and disappoint her clients.

She mentions how she placed a "Back at 11" sign on the door for the first time ever only a couple of months ago.

Because it wasn't always easy, Prange said she once asked God for help. A long time ago, she said she was leaving for work on a Sunday morning when her youngest was around 5 or 6 years old. She recalls asking herself why she was going to work on a Sunday, leaving her family behind and losing the chance to spend time with them.





**"We can cross this bridge together"**  
bayviewfuneral@gmail.com



**507-373-4330 • 1415 Hwy. 13 N. • Albert Lea**  
Locally Organized, Owned & Operated since 1939

www.mainstreetdentalclinics.com



**Main Street Dental Clinics**  
comfortable dentistry

**Less than excited about your visit to the dentist?**  
Relax. It's Main Street Dental.

|                                                                                     |                                                                                     |                                                                                            |                                                                                   |                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Rochester</b><br>(507) 536-7700<br>3110 Wellner Dr<br>NE, Rochester, MN<br>55906 | <b>Mankato</b><br>(507) 720-0250<br>287 St Andrews Dr<br>#100, Mankato, MN<br>56001 | <b>Bloomington</b><br>(507) 583-2141<br>405 Main St E,<br>Bloomington Prairie,<br>MN 55917 | <b>Owatonna</b><br>(507) 455-1000<br>1170 E Frontage<br>Rd, Owatonna, MN<br>55060 | <b>New Richland</b><br>(507) 463-0502<br>132 Broadway Ave<br>N, New Richland,<br>MN 56072 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**8IL CHANGE SPECIAL**

**Marthaler Honda of Albert Lea**

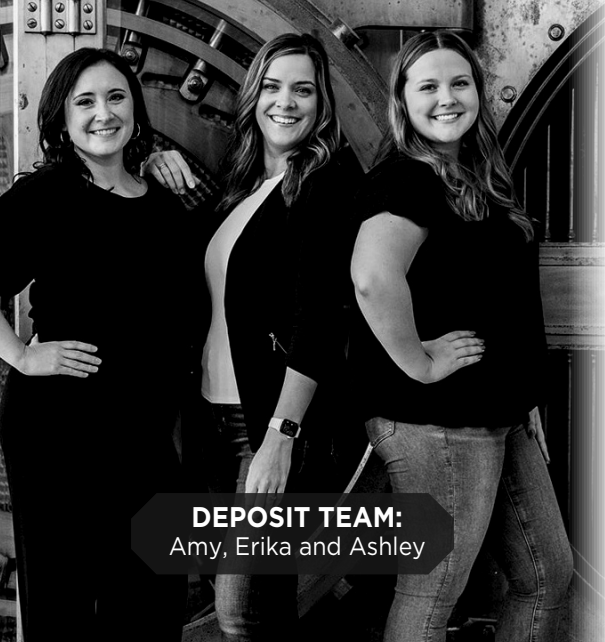
**Cheapest oil change special in town!**

**\$59.99**  
for full synthetic with a tire rotation

**507-373-2341**  
2114 E Main St  
Albert Lea, MN  
marthalerhonda.com

Home of the \$59.99 full synthetic oil change - up to 5 quarts

Get the personal service you need at our community bank!



Visit with our **DEPOSIT TEAM!**

Come to our community bank for:  
• Checking • Savings • IRAs • HSAs  
• Mobile/Online Services and more!  
Open your new account today!

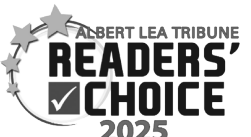


**ARCADIAN BANK**

COMMUNITY OWNED. COMMUNITY FOCUSED.

ALBERT LEA 507-373-1945 HARTLAND 507-845-2233  
FREEBORN 507-863-2371 www.arcadian.bank  
Member FDIC NMLS 554275





**Voted 2025 Readers Choice Best Insurance Agency**

**BIG i**  
MINNESOTA

**Tom Sorenson Big i 2025 MN Agent of the Year**



Standing Left-Right: Suzanne Dickson, Kelly Hagen, AuBree Nienoord, Lori Bagley, Nancy Vaale, Donna Yokiel

Sitting Left-Right: Drew Sorenson, Tom Sorenson, Jennie Makowsky, Samantha Elmer

Front Kneeling: Lake

**WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE THESE COMMUNITIES!**

Albert Lea Ellendale Wells

**507-377-2000 507-684-2314 507-801-1100**



Blue Belt



LEVEL UP - Alexis Olson of New Richland received her High Blue Belt in tae kwan do. Pictured is Alexis Olson and her instructor Mr. Jason Freizen from NTI Waseca.

‘Ask a Trooper’: pulling a camper or trailer

**Question:** I see a lot of motorists pulling campers and trailers that don’t have experience or simply don’t know what they are doing. I see some crashes that I suspect are due to this. Can you talk about pulling campers and trailers?

**Answer:** If you pull a camper or trailer with your vehicle, you must maintain at least 500 feet of following distance from other vehicles.

When loaded, 10 to 15 percent of the trailer’s weight should be balanced on the hitch between the trailer and vehicle. When correctly loaded, the trailer’s floor should be level. After the first few miles, stop and check the hitch, tires, lights and load. Repeat this process at all rest stops.

Travel at a slower speed. Many trailers have smaller wheels that turn faster than your car wheels, causing heat buildup that can lead to trailer wheel bearing failure.

Remember that the brakes on your vehicle were probably not designed to handle heavy trailer loads. A sudden stop at high speed could flip both the trailer and the car.

Speed up carefully, using a lower gear if necessary. Maintain enough following distance to prevent the need for sudden stops. When passing other vehicles, remember the additional length of your trailer and be aware that your ability to accelerate is reduced.

Wind and rain will affect your ability to handle and control a vehicle pulling extra weight. When towing a trailer or camper in wet or windy conditions, slow down more than you would normally do in such weather.

Allow plenty of room for turns. Long trailers will swing closer to the edge of the road than your vehicle.

Pay extra attention to your vehicle’s cooling system when towing extra weight. Your engine will overheat more easily in warm weather, at high speeds and in hilly areas.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson – Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)

County seeks feedback on settlement funds

**By AMELIA ROESSLER**  
Editorial Assistant

Waseca County Public Health is the chief strategist in handling more than \$1 million allocated to the county in the national opioid settlement.

“Most important is that we hear from the community on how they feel these funds should be allocated based on what they see, what they’re experiencing, along with the providers in the area as well,” said Andrea Kronbach, a coordinator in the public health department.

The Minnesota Attorney General’s Office joined a \$26 billion multistate settlement agreement in July of 2021, bringing in more than \$300 million to Minnesota counties over the following 18 years. According to the attorney general’s office, 75 percent of the funds will go to counties and cities and 25 percent to the state. Waseca County is scheduled to receive, over time, a total of \$1,070,373, to be used and rolled over for 13 or 14 years.

Kronbach has been with public health for two years and said she was tasked with helping manage the opioid settlement money beginning last summer. She said she began by sending out notice that a local advisory committee should be formed; she held some initial community meetings to gather input and share information about the opioid settlement. Now, there is an Opioid Settlement Advisory Council, currently consisting of 16 individuals from the community, to assist public health in advising the Waseca County Board of Commissioners on the disbursement of the settlement funds. The council’s first meeting was at the end of May.

It was at that meeting the council agreed a survey would be the best way to capture the community’s thoughts on how funds should be disbursed, Kronbach said. She added they are seeking input from anyone who lives, works, received services in, or sends their kids to school in Waseca County. The survey will remain open through early fall.

“The responses that we’re getting so far, I’m pleased with,” Kronbach said. But she added they always need more input.

At the county fair this month, public health had a booth with buckets labeled with different ways funding could be spent. Participants were asked to put a bead or beads to indicate their personal preferences.

The buckets were labeled “prevention and education,” “harm reduction and treatment,” “support and recovery,” “law enforcement and policy,” “community engagement” and “research and data,” according to Kronbach.

“It’s not surprising to me that currently, prevention and education and support and recovery are kind of the higher areas that people are feeling need more funding,” Kronbach said.

However, she acknowledges it is very early in the feedback gathering process. Kronbach said the advisory council consists of people from all sectors. From law enforcement, court and human services, fire and rescue to healthcare clinics and school districts. She said even one of the school district superintendents is joining the committee. But there is also room for more people on the council.

“What I would like to see more of, actually, is individuals of experience. So we do have a little bit of that representation, and/or people who have been affected by it within their family or close friends—but hearing from individuals with lived experiences,” Kronbach said.

As for the community response, Kronbach said she thinks the community knows that opioid addiction has had profound negative effects, not just in Waseca County but statewide and worldwide.

“I get a sense they’re pleased to know we have some funds to be able to hopefully do some work on the opioid epidemic,” she said.

Kronbach added that the council and public health are working to expand upon efforts that are already happening and helping the great work that’s already being done in the community, including mental health efforts.

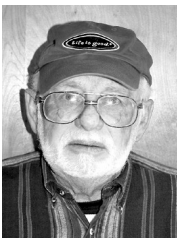
The advisory council and public health will not be working alone and Kronbach said they will be using the John Hopkins Principles for the use of funds from the opioid litigation to guide their work. This includes principles such as spending the money to save lives, using evidence to guide spending, investing in youth prevention, focusing on racial equity and developing a fair and transparent process for deciding where to spend the funding.

“We’re following some best practices. And then also there are other counties, bigger counties, that have started this work ahead of us: There are some blueprints out there that we’re also utilizing,” Kronbach said.

The following advisory council meeting was at 11 a.m. on Aug. 4 in the public health office. Kronbach encouraged community members to come if they wished.

Anyone wishing to join the advisory council can apply on the public health website or at <https://forms.office.com/g/t19LVbRY3c>. Everyone is encouraged to take the opioid settlement survey at <https://forms.office.com/g/mDc5gAhTBd> or on their website.

When does summer really begin?



FACT OR FICTION

...you decide  
by Bob Hanson, Emeritus

“If you repeat what you have read here, it may be used against you.”

It took me lots of Summers in Minnesota to figure out according to my fellow Norwegians when it is really summer. This is my conclusion regarding the Norwegian Male (especially one involved in outdoor work or activity).

Summer begins when you stop wearing your long johns about July 1st after the corn and beans have been planted.

Summer ends with the first nightly temperature below 50 degrees. This is usually about September 1st. Thus, summer is about 60 days in this area of southern Minnesota.

On the flip side, “When can winter end and begin?” I have seen frost in June and snow in September in southern Minnesota. Now you know why Norwegians living in Southern Minnesota are referred to as being “Hardy.”

The air quality has been a problem with a lot of people living in the United States south of the forest fires in Canada. Some days I can see the smoke in the sky along with a funny taste in my mouth.

Because of our age, Genie and I have lessened our activities outdoors when the fire smoke is bad per the weather condition warnings.

Four politicians from the United States sent a letter to the Canadian government complaining about smoke in their states. They wanted to know what Canada was doing about the problem to correct the smoke in their state.

To me, this was like kicking a person when they are down. I think the politicians should have been good neighbors and asked, “What can we do to help?” I would like to know if the Canadians helped the U.S.A. when we had fires and floods. (I bet many Canadians did!)

Genie and I went to the National Senior Games held at the Cyclone Sports Complex at Iowa State University Ames, Iowa Wednesday, July 30 through Sunday, August 3, 2025.

The event was for men and women age 50 through age 99. (The men ran separately as did the women.)

Why did we go? Because our Son-in-Law Roland Krueger of Winston-Salem, North Carolina Participates in many of the track events. We were most impressed with his running ability. (There were eight runners in each event with Roland placing fifth or better in each of the five events he ran in!!)

An interesting sign on Interstate 35 south bound as we’re headed to Ames read, “Welcome To Roland.” Genie and I both came to the same conclusion, the sign was for “Roland” our son-in-law, not the town of Roland, Iowa!!!!

Because of the air quality and my sciatica, Genie and I did not attend the six greatest days of summer event held in Albert Lea at the fair grounds this year. (We did listen to the grandstand show while sitting in a lawn chair in our garage half a block away.)

Talking about the fair, I’d like to make it clear, the Century Farm Family of Darwin and Donna Olson ARE NOT 100 years old! The farm has been in the family for a hundred years!!

I’m going to need some time to comment on the Twins Baseball team. “Was it a shake-down or a shake-up?”

In closing July was just too much for this old Norwegian to handle!

Bob is a retired AAL (Aid Association for Lutherans) agent, currently working on his master’s degree in Volunteering. His wife, Genie, is a retired RN, currently working on her doctor’s degree in Volunteering. They have two children, Deb in North Carolina, and Dan in New York. Bob says if you enjoy his column, let him know. If you don’t enjoy it, keep on reading, it can get worse. Words of wisdom: There is always room for God.



Your Local Distributor

**EAGLE CONCRETE**

DIVISION OF **WASECA SAND & GRAVEL, INC.**

13113-315th Ave. • Waseca, MN 56093

**507-835-5150**

Also Available: Concrete pumping, rebar, ready mix concrete, landscape rock.

**LERBERG'S**

**CAR WASH & COIN LAUNDRY**

**Touchless Wash and Self Serve**

**Full line of cardio, free weights, power racks, dumbbells, barbells, & circuit training machines!**

**FITNESS CENTER & TANNING**

**24 HOURS**

**507-684-2471**

118 5th Avenue West  
Ellendale, MN 56026



**Find us on: facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/newrichlandstar>



**NRHEG Star Eagle**

@newrichlandstar • Newspaper



**NASINEC**

Funeral Home & Crematory



- ❖ New in 2022, one-level facility
- ❖ On-site crematory
- ❖ Pre-need insurance agent
- ❖ Dedicated staff including two full-time morticians
- ❖ everything you need!

789 Business Park Drive Wells, MN 56097

507-553-3124 • [info@nasinecfh.com](mailto:info@nasinecfh.com)

**ELLENDALE FIRE DEPT.**

*Please join us for our*

**ANNUAL SUPPER & AUCTION**

**Friday, August 22**

**MEAL 5:00 p.m. • LIVE AUCTION 6:30 p.m.**

Includes pulled pork sandwiches, firehouse beans & cole slaw

**\$200 Ellendale Bucks DRAWINGS!**

**2 - \$50 4 - \$25**

**ELLENDALE FIRE HALL**

**Cost: Free Will Donation**

All Proceeds go to the Ellendale Firemen's Relief Association



**Advanced Funeral Planning**



**Andrew Schwarz**  
Licensed Preplanning Consultant

- It is a sincere act of love.
- It relieves the burden of making arrangements at a most difficult time, enabling family & friends to better support each other's sorrows.
- It provides comfort to the family that final wishes are respected.
- It allows the funeral to focus on the living who are left to deal with their grief and loss.
- It is capable of relieving the financial burden for family members.
- It can make it easier for those we love.



**BONNERUP**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES

Albert Lea • New Richland • Ellendale

217 West Division Street • New Richland, MN 56072

Phone: (507) 465-8015 • [www.BonnerupFuneralService.com](http://www.BonnerupFuneralService.com)

**VBS**

**Vacation Bible School**

**Grace Baptist Church (507)835-2213**

**1221 8th St SE, Waseca**

**Aug 18,19,20**

**6:30-8:30 pm**

**Grades K-6th**

*prizes*

*snacks*

*game time*

*story time*

*puppets*

*and much more*



OBITUARIES

Inez Lund

Inez Thea Lund was born November 5, 1937 to Harry and Theodora (Thostenson) Lund. She was raised in Hartland, Minnesota and graduated from New Richland High School.

She married Gerald Johnson in 1955. They lived in Ellendale and had seven children together; Rick, Ron, Ryan, Rollie, Lu Ann, Roger and Ross “Poke”.

She later married Stanley Degen in 1994. They lived in Arizona and Minnesota and spent many happy, active years together sharing their love of music, traveling and Auxiliary activities.

Inez enjoyed dancing, baking, canning, Bingo, casino trips, country music concerts and traveling. She was very proud of her Norwegian Heritage and shared cherished memories of her childhood in Hartland, the love of her dear parents, the special family celebrations with Norwegian foods and dancing in the kitchen.

She was a dedicated Lifetime member of the VFW Auxiliary, Owatonna Post 3723 and volunteered much time at the club.

Inez passed away at age 87 on August 4, 2025 at the New Richland Care Center.

She is survived by her children Rick (Beckie), Rollie (Cheryl), Lu Ann (Brad) Prescher and Ross; by



Inez Lund

her daughter-in-law Jolee Lee; as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and her Shaunce and Thostenson cousins.

She is preceded in death by her husbands Stanley Degen and Gerald Johnson; sons, Ron, Ryan and Roger; grandson Avery; her parents; and her siblings Tiff, Norman and Nora.

May God Bless her and keep her in eternal peace and love.

There will be a Celebration of Life Ceremony at the Owatonna VFW, on Wednesday, August 20 from 4 to 7 p.m. with the Auxiliary Ritual taking place at 5 p.m. Food to follow. Owatonna VFW: 135 Oakdale St. Owatonna, MN 55060.

Vivian Abraham

Vivian M. Abraham passed away in New Richland, Minnesota on August 4, 2025. Funeral services were held at Friedrich’s Funeral Home in New Richland on Monday, August 11, 2025 at 11 a.m. Visitation began one hour prior. Vivian was then laid to rest at St. Olaf Cemetery in New Richland.

Vivian was born to Atalla and Bertha Abraham on September 5, 1925 and remained in her family home in New Richland for 98 years. During high school, Vivian was a cheerleader and honor student, graduating from New Richland Schools in 1944. For work, she helped her father candle eggs and supported her family’s business at Abraham’s Family Store

until her retirement in 1988 after 64 years of service in New Richland.

She was a fan of cats and collecting plates, figurines, and other cat-themed items. In her free time, she enjoyed gardening and loved flowers, especially her blooming Amaryllis. And as a New Richland native, she always looked forward to Farm and City Days.

Left to cherish Vivian’s memory are her sister-in-law Darlene Abraham; niece Sandra Abraham Anderson (Steven) of Eagan, MN, and Dawn (Jon) Erickson of Woodbury, MN; nephews Richard Skaff of Maysville, NC, Dr. David (Karen) Skaff of Nicholasville, KY, Douglas (Maryann) Skaff of Charleston, WV, Ronald (Penny) Skaff of Bluffton, SC, M.G. (Vicki) Skaff of Charles-

ton, WV, Dr. Kenneth Abraham Daniel of Peterborough, Ontario, Dennis (Meg) Abraham of Minneapolis, MN, and Mitchell (Priscilla) Abraham of Mooresville, NC; 21 great nieces and nephews; and 32 great-great nieces and nephews.

Welcoming Vivian home are her parents, Atalla and Bertha; her brothers, Clarence and Floyd Abraham; her sisters, Gladys (Moses) Skaff, Alvina Abraham, and Rose Abraham; and her special friend, Joe Donovan.

Thank you to Vivian’s family, neighbors, and friends, and a special thank you to Pam and Larry Goehring for all the care they provided over the years, a blessing to Vivian and our family.



Vivian Abraham

■ New Richland

from Page 1

year. Other volunteers helped serve. Hot dogs by Neighbor’s Meats of

New Richland were enjoyed on buns supplied by Wagner Foods. Chips were from the Willows, alongside cookies from Casey’s.

Firefighters assisted kids in a target practice event with a fire hose typically used for “grass fires” which can shoot up to 50 gallons of water per minute. The capacity was re-

duced to about 10 gallons per minute in order to make it safe for children to use, said department member Curt Pederson. “We can power it down even more if we need.” There were also coloring books for kids to color during the two-hour get-together. Viv Trautman, 3 years old, instructed Logan Jake on how to use it.

This year’s attendance was significantly higher than last year’s, which was also higher than the prior year. Bruegger said she hopes this annual event continues to grow better and better each year. In total about 80 hot dogs were served.

■ Steeple

from Page 1

has been the contact point for the replacement over the past 2.5 years.

“People were there salvaging things,” remembers Judy Kortz. “We kind of walked around in shock.”

An independent adjuster determined there had been \$817,000 worth of damage.

The insurance company began processing the claim and matters at the church settled into a new “normal,” that is, as much as “normal” was possible remembering the Covid-19 pandemic was underway. An engineer was sent to determine what it would take to build and install a replacement, and everyone knew it would take time for plans to be drawn, finances to be settled, and work to begin.

Church leaders were astounded at the number of people who contacted the church, literally from all over the country, offering prayers and financial contributions. They explain most were connected to the church in some way—either because they had once attended it, or because they were family to someone who attended. Of the 300 or so baptized members of the church, many can trace their connection back six or more generations.

Fundraisers were held, some of them sponsored by other organizations. Congregation treasurer Jan Wenzel mentions Cross of Glory church in Hartland held one just last year in support of the project.

“We were so grateful for the way people jumped in and helped,” comments congregation president Lori Routh. “We never had any doubt everything would be put back together.”

More than two years passed, at which time Jim Kortz—who had recently retired—was asked to look into the status of the claim at the insurance company.

“Nothing was happening,” he



The bell tower and steeple of LeSueur River Lutheran Church, located northeast of New Richland, were broken loose by a tornado in June of 2020 and dropped to the ground nearby. The remainder of the building was relatively untouched. The church was originally built in 1875.

says, a tone of surprise still evident in his voice. “It was like they had completely forgotten the claim.” Jim speculates part of the problem was staff changeover and confusion caused by the pandemic, but whatever the reason, it took two weeks of phone calls and questions from Jim to get things rolling again.

A new engineer was assigned and let the congregation know there would have to be some major upgrades.

“The old steeple tower wasn’t up to code, you see,” mentions Wenzel. Neither, it turned out, were the stairs which led up to the balcony. Even the balcony railing did not meet code, and would have to be made more than a foot taller.

Even more significantly, the structure underneath the bell tower was deemed insufficient. Before a new steeple could be installed, up-right metal beams had to be added in order to meet code requirements.

To install the metal beams, a Bobcat vehicle was driven down the stairs to the church basement and used a corkscrew-shaped attachment to drill holes and install beams. The new supports extend about 17 feet below the church basement floor.

“The joke now,” comments Groskreutz, “is that next time there’s a tornado, the church will blow away and the steeple will still be standing there.”

Leaders comment on how respectful and careful all the workers have been, consistently protecting the interior of the church, and always removing their equipment and materials, so that church gatherings were never interfered with.

Church members were asked to make numerous decisions. It was known, for example, that the church had previously had two steeples. The first one, built in the late 1870s along with the church, reportedly reached 95 feet into the sky. Years later, upon the encouragement of a pastor who felt it would be appropriate to glorify God with an even taller structure, a second steeple which reached to 125 feet was built right over the first one.

Once the discussion regarding height began, leaders remember, it meandered between the extremes of not replacing the steeple at all to recreating the 125-foot profile. After lengthy discussion, it was decided to restore the full height.

Code, however, specified that it would have to be a bit narrower and

steeper than the structure which was destroyed.

“It’s been a process, that’s for sure,” observes Jim.

Within the upcoming days when the crane arrives and the steeple is raised into place, church leaders make a number of predictions.

“It’s a good thing it’s tall, and you can see it from a long way back,” comments Judy Kortz. “Because a lot of people are going to want to come watch.” She predicts a line of cars on both sides of the road extending both east and west from the church.

“It will be beautiful,” suggests Routh. “We’ve waited and worked for this for a long time. Everyone will be really pleased to see it restored.”

As for themselves, with the controversy, the complications, the communication and coordination needed to interact with the many agencies and workers needed to get everything done, the leaders predict seeing the tower and the bell lifted into place will also provide, for them, a tremendous sense of a weight being lifted off their shoulders.

“We’re looking forward to it,” comments Jim with a smile.

Gladys Bently

GLADYS R. BENTLY, age 91, passed away on the morning of Wednesday, August 6, 2025 at the Lakeshore Inn Rehabilitation Center in Waseca, MN.

Gladys was born in Oak Park, IL on August 18, 1933 to parents Foster and Ruth (Ross) Rechel. After graduating high school, she earned a B.A. in Spanish from Purdue University. She married John Bently, and they later divorced. Gladys’s careers included working as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Highland Park Hospital, and she was also a medical courier. She met her life partner, Sylvester “Syl” Reitmeyer and they enjoyed volunteering at Boy Scout Camps and laughing through life, sometimes with red noses on their faces.

Gladys was preceded in death by Syl, by her parents, and by her daughter Ruth “Ruthie” Bently. She is survived by her children Jean Bently-Jones, Joan (Dan) Fletcher, and John (Deb) Bently, along with many loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

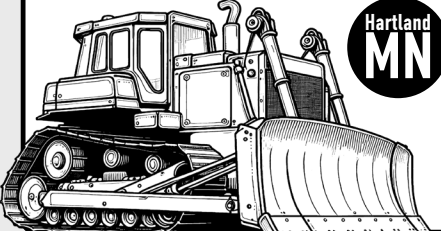
Visitation was held from 9-10 a.m. on Monday, August 11, 2025 at Zion Lutheran Church in Deerfield, IL (10 Deerfield Road, Deer-



Gladys Bently

field, IL 60015). Funeral services were held after the visitation at 10 a.m. at the church. Following a luncheon in the church basement, interment was scheduled at 2 p.m. on Monday, August 11, 2025 at Ascension Catholic Cemetery in Libertyville (1920 Buckley Road, Libertyville, IL 60048). In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be directed to the Alzheimer’s Association or to Zion Lutheran Church in Deerfield, IL.

OLSON EXCAVATING



Hartland MN

- \* GPS Controlled
- \* Drain Tile Installation
- \* Open Ditch Clean Cut
- \* Backhoe/Dozer/Skidloader
- \* Concrete And Tree Removal
- \* Rock, Gravel, & Dirt Hauling
- \* Chainsawing & Stump Grinding
- \* Snow Removal & Sanding

Brandon Flatness, Owner » shop 507-845-2440 cell 507-383-2008

NRHEG OPEN HOUSE

GRILL OUT



WEDNESDAY  
AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup>  
2-8 PM

6-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
STUDENTS AND  
PARENTS

FREE HOT DOG  
MEAL 3-7 PM

nrheg.k12.mn.us

NRHEG OPEN HOUSE

OPEN HOUSE MEAL DEAL:  
HOT DOG, CHIPS, AND WATER— MEAT DONATED BY  
NEIGHBOR’S MEATS, STEVE’S MEAT, AND GENEVA MEATS



SHOW UP AND HAVE A CHANCE  
TO WIN ONE OF THESE PRIZES:  
\*4 FREE TECH PASSES  
\*4 FREE SPORT PASSES  
\*1 FREE FAMILY PASS  
\*SWAG/MERCH GEAR

OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS:

6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WILL BE MEETING WITH MR. BERG IN THE HIGH  
SCHOOL GYM. YOU WILL BE GOING THROUGH INFORMATION  
FOR THE NEW BUILDING, CLASSES, ETC.  
FRESHMAN WILL BE MEETING WITH MS. STIERNAGLE IN THE  
HIGH SCHOOL GYM TO GO THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL  
EXPECTATIONS, GRADES, ETC.  
SENIORS WILL BE MEETING WITH MS. HATTON AND MS.  
PETERSON IN THE MEDIA CENTER TO DISCUSS THE  
UPCOMING SENIOR YEAR-- GRADUATION, BACCALAUREATE,  
SENIOR TRIP, HOMECOMING WEEK, ETC.

NRHEG OPEN HOUSE

2 PM—OPEN HOUSE BEGINS  
3 PM— GRILL OUT BEGINS  
HOT DOG, CHIPS, WATER FROM 3 UNTIL GONE  
6 PM- 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE MEETING IN HS GYM  
7 PM- SENIOR MEETING IN MEDIA  
CENTER  
7 PM- 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE MEETING IN HS GYM

FROM 2 TO 8 PM COME TO THE OPEN  
HOUSE AND MEET TEACHERS, FIND  
YOUR LOCKER, WALK YOUR SCHEDULE,  
AND FILL OUT PAPERWORK.





## Woods and Water

by Dick Herfindahl  
Outdoors Writer

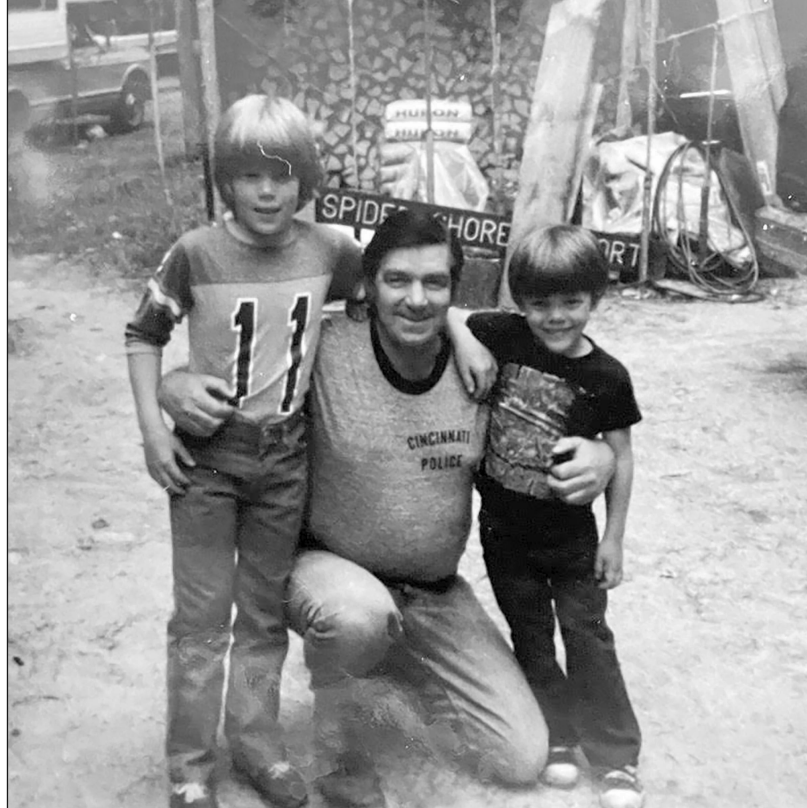
# Missing the good old days

I plan to visit the cabin again in the next couple of weeks if the weather looks favorable. The last time I was up there the weather was miserable. I will look closely at the weather before I visit this time.

Spending time in the woods is a great experience if a person can co-exist with the mosquitoes and deer flies. There is one spot in our woods where there isn't a breeze, and the sun beats down mercilessly. My friend Mark, who has spent a lot of time at our cabin, calls that area "the devil's hole," which seems to be appropriate.

In looking back at some of our family vacations, I have many fond memories of camping at some of the area resorts back when that was a thing. Many resorts no longer allow

weekly camping, only seasonal. When we first started fishing at Spider Lake, we rented a cabin. Eventually we found that we could camp there with a tent or camper. The cost was very reasonable, and we could have a campfire and really enjoy the outdoors experience. When we first arrived and set up the camper or tent, we were ready to put the boat in the water. When we were finished setting up camp, we would tell the owners, and they would take us the mile and a half to the access to put our boat in. It was the same when it was time to leave; we'd let them know and they would meet me at the access. I sure miss those days and the kind folks that ran the resort. Like everything in life, things change, and friends move on.



Here are some pictures of staying at a cabin or camping at Spider Lake. One picture shows Herfindahl's grandson, Trevor, holding a stringer of northern, and the determined look on his face says it all. Another is of Herfindahl's two boys when they were young, with a northern that Brian caught. Another is of the two boys posing with "Bid," the resort owner. They liked him, and he would always tease them, and also take the time to talk to them.



The only downside to that resort was the number of skunks. You could be sitting around the campfire, and a skunk might appear under your chair, not to intimidate you, but it was just looking for scraps. They were almost like pets and roamed free around the campground, not really bothering anyone. If you were tented, you didn't want to leave any food out or they would find it.

These days resort owners find it more convenient and more profitable to rent campsites by the season, so they don't have to mess with week-enders. That way if you want to stay for a week, you need to rent a cabin.

I always liked staying in a cabin, but now that I have my own cabin, it is not quite the same. Don't get me wrong, I love our cabin, but spending time at a different lake is sometimes nice for a change.

State Parks are your best bet to camp for a weekend or a week. You can have access to showers, toilets, and a boat landing, in most cases.

Please show your support for our troops who are now deployed. These service men and women are making that sacrifice, so that we may have the many freedoms that we enjoy today.

## LOOKING BACK

25 Years back



The New Richland-Hartland High School girl graduates of 1975 joined their male counterparts, Saturday, July 8 at a reunion at St. Olaf Lake Park marking the 25th anniversary of their commencement. They are from the left: front, Sindy Thompson Lewer, Marry Ellen Duenes Podrat, Dawn Hendrickson Thompson, Carol Winegar Trenholm, Jody Bergner Quiram and Sandy Nelson Rath; back, Darlene Baker Halstead, Virginia Besser Raimann, Rhonda Borchert Prechel, Mary Jo Hanson, Cindra Jensen, Kathy Schumacher Flor and Sandra Jensen Fredrick.

Courtney Adams, Janesville native and 1997 graduate of JWP High school, was crowned Miss Waseca county 2000 on Saturday, July 14. First runner up is Cristina Stewert of Waseca, and second runner up is another area resident, Amanda Tesch of Waldorf. Each contestant was guaranteed at least \$100 in scholarship money. As the winner, Adams received a \$1,000 scholarship; runner up Stewert received \$300 and second runner up Tesch received \$200. Included in the Royal Court was Miss Congeniality, Stacey Lewer, daughter of Brian and Cindy Lewer of Waseca and granddaughter to Florence Thompson of New Richland.

50 Years back



Inger Nordby, New Richland-Hartland AFS student, arrived from Norway last Tuesday. She is pictured here with Julie Lundberg. She will be living with the Darrel Lundberg family. A senior, Inger is 18. She comes from just outside Oslo, Norway, where her father, Asbjorn Nordby is self-employed in electronic instruments. She has a brother, 20, and a sister, 11.

A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Tom O'Brien of Minnetonka at Methodist Hospital, St. Louis Park, Thursday, August 7. He has been named Timothy John and weighed in at 7 lbs. and 6 oz. Grandmothers are Mrs. Armin Mueller of Waldorf, and Mrs. Edward O'Brien of Waldorf is his great grandmother.



Mary Evenson won the 18-25 ladies division of the A & W Tennis Tourney at New Richland this past weekend. Winning the 25 and over division for ladies was Mrs. Robert Rugroden. The high school division for gals was won by Mary Jo Hanson. The gals are pictured here with their trophies.

75 Years back

Lord and Lady Peutland of New York and London, who have been visiting several Albert Lea families, were guests at the Dr. C. F. Palmer cottage at St. Olaf Lake during the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thiewes (nee Joy Sybilrud) of Fond du Lac, Wis., announce the arrival of a son, Bruce Edward, weighing 6 lbs. and 8 ounces, born at the Memorial hospital, Waseca, September 1, 1950. They have another child, a daughter, Paulette.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Edward Kreuger announce the marriage of their daughter, Elaine Edith to Elton E. Tetric on Saturday, September 2 at Mankato.

## Attend the Church of your Choice!

**ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
New Richland, Minnesota  
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor  
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Choir and Choir, 10:30 a.m. Worship  
Wednesday - 5:15 p.m. Supper, 6 p.m. Bible Study

**ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Otisco, Minnesota  
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor  
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
New Richland, Minnesota  
Pastor Mary Iverson  
Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School, 10 a.m. Coffee  
Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting  
Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting (first Wednesday)

**LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
New Richland, Minnesota  
Pastor Dan Kordahl  
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting

**VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
New Richland, Minnesota  
Pastor Dan Kordahl  
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship

**VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH**  
New Richland, Minnesota  
Brian Schani Pastor  
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School  
Tuesdays: The Shepherd's Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark

**CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN**  
Hartland, Minnesota  
Rev. Marcia Pedersen  
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship  
Tuesday - Council meeting (First Tuesday)

**WEST FREEBORN LUTHERAN**  
Hartland, Minnesota  
Rev. Marcia Pedersen  
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship  
Monday - Council meeting (First Monday of the month)  
Friday - Quilting meets 9:00 a.m. twice a month, see newsletter for dates.

**HARTLAND EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN**  
Hartland, Minnesota  
Pastor Phillip K. Lepak  
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship

**MANCHESTER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN**  
Manchester, Minnesota  
Pastor Phillip K. Lepak  
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship

**ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
New Richland, Minnesota  
Father Glenn Frerichs  
Friday - 10 a.m. on 1st, 3rd and 4th Fridays p.m. Mass  
Sunday - Mass at 8 a.m.

**COMMUNITY LUTHERAN**  
Geneva, Minnesota  
Pastor Leandra Anderson  
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship (times vary for holidays)  
Monday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting

**SIMPLY CHURCH**  
105 Second Street North East  
Geneva, Minnesota  
Todd Lundgren, Pastor  
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study; 10:30 a.m. Worship

**VIBRANT LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH**  
Ellendale, Minnesota  
Pastor David Modder  
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 10 a.m. Kids church  
Check the website for additional updates  
www.vibrantlifeag.com

**FIRST LUTHERAN, AFLC**  
Ellendale, Minnesota  
Pastor Kyle Smith  
Saturday - 8 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship  
Monday - 7 p.m. Call to prayer  
Wednesday - 9:30 a.m. Bible Study; 6 p.m. Confirmation; 7-9 p.m. Youth Group (No confirmation during summer)

**ELLEDALE UNITED METHODIST**  
Ellendale, Minnesota  
Randy Cirksema, Pastor  
Sunday - Summer Service time is 9:30 a.m. Worship; 9:15 a.m. Sunday school. (No summer Sunday school)  
Worship is at 10:30 a.m. beginning after Sept. 3. Sunday School from Oct. through May from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.  
Food shelf is open every Thursday from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**CENTRAL FREEBORN LUTHERAN**  
Hartland, Minnesota  
Pastor Matt Griggs  
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship  
FM Transmitter is used for those wanting to listen through their car radios at FM 90.7

**EAST FREEBORN LUTHERAN**  
Hartland, Minnesota  
Pastor Matt Griggs  
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship  
FM Transmitter is used for those wanting to listen through their car radios at FM 89.3

**FAMILY OF FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Hollendale, Minnesota  
Rev. Neal Ooms  
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship; 9:20 a.m. Worship and kids church (now an eagle brook viewing church)

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
LCMS  
Hollendale, Minnesota  
Pastor Jesse Krumemark

Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship  
**FAMILY OF FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Rev. Neal Ooms  
101 East Park Avenue  
Hollendale, Minnesota  
Sunday - 9:30 a.m. Worship; 10:45 a.m. Sunday School

**ZION LUTHERAN, ELCA**  
Rural Ellendale  
Deacon Billie Jo Wicks  
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN, ELCA**  
Meriden, Minnesota  
Deacon Billie Jo Wicks  
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship

**PONTOPPIDAN LUTHERAN**  
Lenond Township  
Pastor Dave Klawitter  
Sunday - 10:15 a.m. Worship

**FIRST LUTHERAN, LCMC**  
Hope, Minnesota  
Pastor Sandy Miller  
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 10:15 a.m. Youth/Adult Study

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Clarks Grove, Minnesota  
Pastor James Cameron  
Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship

**HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH OF LITOMYSL**  
Father Peter Schuster  
Sunday - 8 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation; 8:30 a.m. Mass with Children's Church, Preschool Sunday School during Mass  
Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. - Faith Formation classes for grades K-Confirmation  
www.litomysl.webs.com  
www.stsidorechurch.webs.com

**FIRST LUTHERAN**  
Missouri Synod  
Waldorf, Minnesota  
Rev. Larry Sipe, pastor  
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study

**Steve's Meat Market**  
EST 1973  
Award Winning Home-Cured Meat Products  
Ellendale, MN 56026  
PH: 507-684-2331  
FAX: 507-684-3109

Your local family-owned store for Fresh Produce & Quality Meats, friendly service & great prices!  
**Wagner Foods**  
Mon-Sat: 8 am - 8 pm  
Sun: 9 am - 5 pm  
(507) 463-3717  
120 South Broadway  
New Richland, MN  
newrichlandgrocery.com

**Bayview Freeborn**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES  
1415 Hwy 13N  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
bayviewfuneral@gmail.com  
507-373-4330  
Locally Organized, Owned & Operated since 1939

**JANIKE SEEDS**  
PIONEER BRAND SEEDS  
CORTEVA  
LAYNE JANIKE  
(507) 995-6627  
layne.janike@plantpioneer.com

**NEW RICHLAND CARE CENTER**  
Exceptional care by and for Exceptional People!  
(507) 465-3292  
312 1st Street NE, New Richland, MN

**L&D Ag Service**  
Hartland, MN  
408 Broadway St,  
Hartland, MN, 56042  
(507) 845-2100  
LD-AG.com

**agro-economics inc.**  
**MARK BERNARD**  
Crop Consultant  
(507) 461-1775  
121 3rd St. N.E.  
New Richland, MN 56072  
CERTIFIED CROP ADVISOR

**TS THOMPSON SANITATION, INC.**  
LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL  
ROLLOFFS • RECYCLING  
Clarks Grove Office:  
108 N. Independence Ave.  
Clarks Grove, MN 56016  
Phone: 507-256-4370  
thompsonsantiation.com

**SUN HONEY LLC**  
SOUTHERN MINNESOTA HIVES  
205 3rd St. NW • New Richland, MN 56072  
www.facebook.com/SunHoneyLLC  
507-461-1718



LEGAL NOTICES



**Earn Extra Income as a Foster Grandparent or Senior Companion Volunteer!**

- Receive a tax-free stipend.
- No prior experience required.
- Volunteers must be 55 or older.



888.205.3770 | [americorpseniors@lssmn.org](mailto:americorpseniors@lssmn.org)  
[lssmn.org/oa/volunteer/mna](http://lssmn.org/oa/volunteer/mna)





**WHEN THE SHELVES ARE EMPTY (AGAIN), YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU PLANNED AHEAD.**

To access a special deal on the 4-Week Emergency Food Kit from My Patriot Supply, scan the QR code, visit or call:

[mypatriotdeal.com/prep62](http://mypatriotdeal.com/prep62)

**1-855-755-5825**



**Transform Your Bathroom and Change Your Life.**



**FREE TOILET + \$1,500 OFF\***

For your FREE information kit and our Senior Discounts, Call Today Toll-Free

**1-833-966-3882**



\*Free toilet with purchase and installation of a walk-in tub or walk-in shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Market restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445 13VH11096000



**MCAN**  
Minnesota Classified Advertising Network



**HEALTH**

**IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY** and suffered an infection between 2020 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 800/535-5727

**WANTED TO BUY**

**WANTED:** ALL 1970S MOTORCYCLES Running or not. Titled or not. Will pick up. Cash in exchange. Sell now before prices fall. Call Dan at 612/720-2142

**WE BUY HOUSES** for cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 844/978-0683

**ONLY \$279** to reach a statewide audience of 1.3 million readers!!! **612-332-8844**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY!** Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 866/852-5506

**GET BOOST INFINITE!** Unlimited talk, text and data for just \$25/mo! The power of 3 5G networks, one low price! Call today and get the latest iPhone every year on us! 855/849-6621

**GET DISH SATELLITE TV + INTERNET!** Free install, free HD-DVR upgrade, 80,000 on-demand movies, plus limited time up to \$600 In gift cards. Call today! 855/562-4309

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**GET A BREAK ON YOUR TAXES!** Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 844/220-9501 today!

**SAFE STEP** North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1,600 off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 833/966-3882

**WANTED**

**HUNTING LAND TO LEASE** in Southern MN. Winona, Fillmore, Olmsted, Wabasha and Houston counties. 507/861-0085. Please Respond ASAP.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: June 6, 2023

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$270,750.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Emmit Culver and Jade Culver, spouses married to each other

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Cambria Financial Group LLC d/b/a Cambria Mortgage

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on June 8, 2023 and memorialized upon Certificate of Title No. 591.0 as Document Number T2330 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Waseca County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: U.S. Bank National Association by assignment recorded on August 13, 2024 as Document Number T2376

in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Waseca County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. by assignment recorded on March 11, 2025 as Document Number T2391 in the Office of the County Registrar of Titles of Waseca County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 8 (eight), Block 2 (Two), Noetzel's Addition, City of Waseca, Waseca County, Minnesota. REGISTERED PROPERTY

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 808 10TH ST NE, WASECA, MN 56093

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Waseca County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$302,296.10

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Cambria Financial Group LLC d/b/a Cambria Mortgage

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 17.476.0260

TRANSACTION AGENT'S

MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1009970-0000026776-8

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: September 25, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Waseca County Sheriff's Office, 122 3rd Ave. NW, Waseca, MN 56093.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on March 25, 2026.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE

MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: August 04, 2025

SELECT PORTFOLIO SERVICING, INC. Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/ N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq. Samuel R. Coleman, Esq. Alexa Marsh, Esq. Attorneys for Mortgagee 25 Dale Street North St. Paul, MN 55102 (651) 209-9760 (24-0977-FC02)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. Published in the Star Eagle on August 7, 14, 21, 28, and September 4, 11, 2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF WASECA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

Estate of Clarence Battey, Decedent Court File No. 81-PR-25-556

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on September 17, 2025 at 9 a.m., a hearing will be held via Zoom in this Court at 307 North State Street, Waseca, Minnesota, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated, June 9, 2011, ("Will"), and for the appointment of James M. Battey, whose address is

24873 105th Street, New Richland, MN, 56072 and Jerry L. Battey, whose address is 7977 State Highway 30, New Richland, MN, 56072 as Personal Representatives of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representatives will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. There will be no in person appearances. See Notice of Remote Hearing.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four

months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.

BY THE COURT Judge of District Court Carol Hanks Court Administrator Shannon Asselin

Attorney for Petitioner Kristin K. Haberman Einhaus, Mattison, Carver & Haberman, P.A. Owatonna, MN, 55060 Attorney License No: 0268045 Telephone: (507) 451-3580 FAX: (507) 451-3532 Email: [haberman@owatonna-lawyers.com](mailto:haberman@owatonna-lawyers.com) Published in the Star Eagle on August 14 and 21, 2025



**Star Eagle**  
is for sale at these locations:

CLARKS GROVE - Gopher Stop  
ELLENDALE - Lerberg's Foods • Casey's  
WASECA - Kwik Trip • Kwik Trip North • Casey's  
Supplies NEW RICHLAND - Wagner Foods • Casey's

GENEVA - Geneva Bar & Grill  
HARTLAND - BP Gas Station  
HOPE - Krause Feeds &

**And At The Star Eagle Office**

**Got news?**  
**507-463-8112**

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY



**JENSEN'S**  
PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING

Serving Southern Minnesota for over 45 years!

104 CENTRAL AVE N  
**GENEVA, MN**  
**507-256-4712**

*Insurance from the Best!*



**TROY THOMPSON**  
AGENCY, INC.

1330 W. Main, Albert Lea, MN  
**507-377-2852 fax 507-377-3301**  
[troythompsonagency@gmail.com](mailto:troythompsonagency@gmail.com)



**Hope**  
CREAMERY

9043 SW 37th Ave. • Hope, MN  
**507-684-2019**

TOP \$\$\$ PAID



**POOLEY'S**  
SCRAP IRON & RECYCLING

WE BUY ALL TYPES OF METAL

new richland 13984 215th Avenue, New Richland, MN Phone: (507) 465-3789 Fax: (507) 465-3258

FAIRMONT 620 N. Main Street Fairmont, MN Phone: (507) 238-4391 Fax: (507) 238-1355

WE BUY ALUM CANS

[pooleyscrapiron.com](http://pooleyscrapiron.com)



**Bohler**  
Plumbing & Heating



*It's Hard To Stop A Trane.*

324 N Broadway • New Richland 507-465-8376

Rick 507-402-6766 • James 507-475-2450



**ARO ACCOUNTING**

Allyson Olson  
cell 507-391-3738  
[allyson@aroaccounting.com](mailto:allyson@aroaccounting.com)

Two locations to serve you

217 East Elm Ave, Waseca  
**507-391-3738**

32718 State Hwy 13, Hartland  
**507-845-2763**



**Holland Auction**  
Holland & Associates  
Ellendale, MN  
**Tracy Holland**  
#7405002

**507-456-5128**  
[www.hollandauction.com](http://www.hollandauction.com)



**Bayview Freeborn**  
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES

1415 Hwy 13N  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
[bayviewfuneral@gmail.com](mailto:bayviewfuneral@gmail.com)  
**507-373-4330**

Locally Organized, Owned & Operated since 1939

INSURE CAREFULLY. DREAM FEARLESSLY.

CALL (507) 835-2770 FOR A NO-OBLIGATION FREE QUOTE.



Matthew R. Petsinger Agency, LLC  
Matthew Petsinger, Agent  
Waseca, MN  
[teampetsinger@amfam.com](mailto:teampetsinger@amfam.com)  
[mrapagencyllc.com](http://mrapagencyllc.com)



**JK ROUTH CONTRACTING, LLC**



**Jesse Routh**  
507-383-7892  
[jrouthbod@yahoo.com](mailto:jrouthbod@yahoo.com)



**PANTHER**  
POWERHOUSE

24-Hour Gym Access  
New Member signup by appointment  
114 Broadway Ave. N.  
Call or text (507)330-2345  
Facebook address :  
<https://www.facebook.com/PantherPowerHouseFitness>



**Red Leaf Cafe**

Open Monday-Friday 6am-2pm

104 Broadway Ave. S. • Downtown New Richland  
**507-465-8000**



Panther Fitness Award Winners



Easton Isder, Kenley Tolzman and Collin Eustice won the Panther Fitness Award for 2024-2025.



Jace Wenzel won Best Team Member, Makayla Louks won Most Improved Runner and Collin Eustice won the Sportsmanship Award.



David Rysavy won Best Team Member and Oliver Petsinger won Most Improved Runner.



Knox Pederson won the Sportsmanship Award.



5th grade Panther Fitness Award winners. Back row: Jacob Sommer, Anchor Skuster, Marvin Tolzman, Gio Johnson, Brexton Bartsch. Front row: Grace Wear, Evelyn Schlaak, Miah Gilbertson, Kelsey Warke



4th grade Panther Fitness Award winners. Back row: Axel Schlaak, Sophia Johnson, Makenna Misgen, Ian Wilson. Front row-Rafe Knudson, Jack VanHal, Chase Simon, Griffen Pederson



3rd grade Panther Fitness Award winners. Back row: Alex VanHal, Ethan McGurran, Maya Misgen, Leia Guerrero, Reid Leonardo, Xander Hill-Aronson. Front row: Nolan Bartsch, Kaison Perkins, Jackson Buenger, Eddie Simmons